

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 have been examined in the Application. The advisory action dated October 19, 2004 maintained the rejection of claims 1-44. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, 21 and 34 to clarify that **each of** the composite cells includes data and signaling data of narrowband transmission. Such an amendment clarifies the claimed invention in view of the prior art as suggested by the Examiner in the advisory action.

Reply to 35 U.S.C. 102 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 26, 28-31, and 39-42 as being anticipated by Onno (U.S.P. 5,170,272).

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to clarify the subject matter as suggested by the Examiner. In particular, as explained above, claim 1 has been amended to recite a method that includes converting narrowband transmissions to and from composite asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) cells by separating data and signaling portions of the narrowband transmissions into separate byte positions in **each of** the composite ATM cells. In addition, the advisory action indicated that FIG. 3 of the present invention shows two separate ATM cells where cell 170 is used to transport signaling information and cell 166 is used to transport data information. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Instead, FIG. 3 shows a **single** composite narrowband ATM cell that includes narrowband **data** 166 comprising PCM data octets 150 and narrowband **signaling** 170 comprising signaling cells 152 of the same form as the PCM cells 150. In a similar manner, FIG. 4 shows a **single** composite ATM cell 169 that includes both narrowband and broadband data where cell 169 includes data octets 160 and signaling octets 162) to allow telephony data and signaling to be transported in cells 168 and 172 along with data

octets from an ISDN line. Thus, by pairing cells in a composite format both narrowband and broadband data can be transported together in single composite ATM cell 169. (See page 19, lines 16-18 of the current application). So, narrowband data and broadband data can be transmitted over the same transmission link instead of separate dedicated links thereby permitting the entire bandwidth of the transmission line to be available for both narrowband and broadband transmissions.

In contrast, Onno does not teach or suggest **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions into **separate byte positions in each of** the converted composite ATM cells as recited in amended claim 1 of the present invention. For example, FIG. 2 of Onno discloses a broadband network terminal B.NT2 that receives narrowband data from narrowband terminal adapter N.TA and broadband data from broadband terminal adapter B.TA and transports the data over asynchronous interface Sb. Onno may mention broadband and narrowband data, however, it makes no mention of **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions into **separate byte positions in each of** the composite ATM cells as recited in amended claim 1 of the present invention. Onno therefore does not anticipate independent claim 1 and respective dependent claims.

Independent claims 11, 21 and 34 have been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 as discussed above. Therefore, claims 11, 21 and 34 should be patentable over the prior art for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Onno therefore does not anticipate the present invention and claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 26, 28-31, and 39-42.

Reply to 35 U.S.C. 103 Objections

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Onno in view of Hiller et al. (U.S.P. 5,327,421). The Examiner contends that Hiller discloses a system where a plurality of narrowband telephony channels are converted into ATM cells and when taken

in combination with Onno, discloses the invention claimed in claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiners characterization of the combination of Hiller and Onno. As discussed with respect to the Examiners 35 U.S.C. 102 claim rejections above, Onno does not teach or disclose a technique that includes converting narrowband transmissions to and from composite asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) cells by **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions **into separate byte positions in each of** the converted composite ATM cells. Hiller likewise does not teach these features and is instead directed to conversion of a signal stream into ATM cells. It does not describe a technique of **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions **into separate byte positions in each of** the converted composite ATM cells as claimed in the present invention. Thus the combination of Onno and Hiller does not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed and does not render claims 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44 obvious.

Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114

Applicants submit a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the instant application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and request that the Examiner allow claims 1-44 and pass the application to issue. Please charge the fee of \$790 for the RCE to our deposit account No. 50-1561, and reference Attorney Docket No. 29633.044300. If there are any additional fees due, please charge any such fees to our deposit account No. 50-1561 and reference the Attorney Docket number listed above. If there is any point requiring further attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is asked to contact Applicants' counsel who can be reached at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully,
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